

LOSSAN Rail Corridor Improvements

Los Angeles and San Diego Counties, California

(November 2002)

Description

The Los Angeles-San Diego Rail Corridor Agency (LOSSAN) is implementing a long range plan to improve the safety, capacity and speed of intercity and commuter rail service between Los Angeles and San Diego. This 129-mile stretch of rail includes 18 stations (ten intercity/commuter and eight commuter only). Three operators provide service in the corridor: Amtrak operates intercity rail service (the *San Diegan*); the Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRRA) operates Metrolink commuter rail service; and the North (San Diego) County Transit District (NCTD) operates the Coaster commuter rail service. In addition, the LOSSAN Rail Corridor accommodates the only freight rail service into the San Diego region.

LOSSAN is proposing to utilize Section 5309 New Starts funding for two station-area improvements and to improve safety along a portion of the railway roadbed. Specifically, LOSSAN is proposing to stabilize erosion along the railway roadbed located along the oceanfront bluffs in the City of Del Mar.

Proposed improvements in the Del Mar Bluffs portion of the LOSSAN Rail Corridor are estimated to cost \$27.2 million (\$2001), with a proposed Section 5309 New Starts share of \$10 million. Because the proposed New Starts share is less than \$25 million, the project is exempt from the New Starts criteria, and is thus not subject to FTA's evaluation and rating (49 USC Section 5309(e)(8)(A)).

Summary Description	
Proposed Project:	Intercity Rail Improvements (Dell Mar Bluff roadbed stabilization)
Total Capital Cost (\$2001):	\$27.8 Million
Section 5309 New Starts Share (\$2001):	\$10 Million (37%)

Status

The LOSSAN agency was created to implement a program of rail system improvements in the three-county areas of Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego. A formal Major Investment Study or Alternatives Analysis was not prepared for the proposed rail improvements. Some environmental and geotechnical work has been completed on each of the proposed improvements. Through FY 1997, Congress had appropriated \$19.89 million in Section 5309 New Starts funding for several prior grade-separation projects along the LOSSAN Rail Corridor. TEA-21 Section 3030(b)(26) authorizes the LOSSAN (Del Mar-San Diego) corridor for Alternatives Analysis and Preliminary Engineering.

Congress has appropriated \$3.95 million in New Starts funding for the San Diego LOSSAN Corridor project during the TEA-21 Authorization period. Thus, Congress has appropriated a total of \$23.84 million through FY 2002.

Locally Proposed Financial Plan		
<u>Proposed Source of Funds</u>	<u>Total Funding (\$million)</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u>
Federal: Section 5309 New Starts	\$10.1	36.3 %
Local:	\$17.7	63.6 %
Total:	\$27.8	100 %

NOTE: Funding proposal reflects assumptions made by project sponsors, and not DOT or FTA assumptions. Total may not add due to rounding.

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